

ASMBS is a collection of diverse and dynamic surgeons who share a professional and personal passion for the treatment of obesity. The Society has been shaped by innovators and risk takers to become the most vibrant and dynamic surgical society today.

In 20+ years of practice, I've been recognized for adjustable gastric band care, I was an early adopter of sleeve gastrectomy, and I've performed thousands of gastric bypasses. Most recently, I've introduced BPD-DS to our practice. This growth and evolution could not have been possible without our Society. The occasionally contentious exchange of ideas has always been embraced by our Society and we all benefit.

During this valuable clinical experience, I've also held a wide variety of medical staff and ASMBS leadership positions. This experience eventually led to my graduate degree in healthcare Administration with honors in 2018.

I'm grateful to have had the opportunity to give back to ASMBS. While a member and then chair of the Insurance Committee, we answered hundreds of reimbursement questions, delivered practice development courses, coding updates, and insurance courses at our biannual meetings. Some of the most visited ASMBS website pages are insurance content. I have been the Society's CPT Panel advisor. My significant achievement was coordinating with GI societies, ACS, and SAGES to achieve a CPT Code for the Intra-gastric Balloon. In 2020, I received the ASMBS Service of Distinction medal for this work.

ASMBS has excelled in many ways; championing patient access, supporting and highlighting clinical and basic science research, delivering surgeon education, and becoming a Society that embraces, and then leverages, diversity. These critical functions need constant attention to grow and thrive.

Every organization has opportunities. We are, after all, a society that focuses on surgery as a treatment for severe obesity. As we develop more surgical procedures. Our society must put greater focus on the choice and conduct of our operations to achieve excellence across our society. I think we can hear our members' voices better. Establishing efficient and convenient tools for feedback and input can only make us stronger, but we must act on this input. As industry plays a smaller role in our society, creating playbooks for the safe and efficient adoption of new procedures are a translational activity the ASMBS can achieve through a coordinated effort of our committees. Finally, our Society must embrace the ongoing care of the patient with obesity, beyond the initial operation. I want to champion ways to identify and prevent long-term complications efficiently and effectively. We must use our knowledge, passion, and position to help the patient with recurrent morbid obesity. This means addressing our own biases and empowering our patients, and members, with safe and effective treatment strategies.

This work requires vision and focus. My decade+ of experience working with our leadership and staff, graduate degree in healthcare administration, success with complicated multi-year

projects, and delivery of valuable content uniquely prepares me for the role of Executive Councilperson at Large. I hope you choose me to deliver on this vision.